



Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Pest Detection and Management Programs – Program Update

Program: *Phytophthora ramorum*

Date: July 26, 2004

Trace forward and national surveys continue as PPQ determines the distribution of *P. ramorum*. The total number of confirmed positive locales from the trace forward, national, and other survey finds is 148 in 21 States. Three are from landscape/environment situations. The breakdown per State is: AL (3), AR(1), AZ (1), CA(53), CO(1), FL(6), GA(13), LA(5), MD(2), NC(9), NJ(1), NM(1), NY(1), OK(1), OR(10), PA(indoor), SC(3), TN(2), TX(10), VA(2) and WA (22).

The PPQ *P. ramorum* National Survey sampling has been completed in 7 States in the Western Region (AK, AR, AZ, CA, LA, OK, and SD) and started in 3 additional States (KA, ND, WY). Hot summer weather is moving northward and slowing/halting National Survey efforts in the south eastern and mid-Atlantic States. Surveys will resume in the fall. As of July 23rd, the participating States have surveyed 1,118 sites and have collected 29,729 samples; 18 sites are confirmed positives. The US Forest Service *P. ramorum* detection surveys continue; all sampling results are negative to date. As of July 22nd, the USFS has conducted nursery perimeter and general forest surveys in 26 and 13 States, respectively. For more information on the Forest Service SOD survey/ sampling methods, please refer to http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/fhm/sod/sod_natnl.pdf.

Canada has identified three infested nurseries in British Columbia ; one of which is a production nursery that shipped potentially infected plants to 19 nurseries in CA, OR and WA. Program staff has sent a list of nurseries that received plants from the British Columbia nursery to the affected States.

There are 5 States that have requested a Special Needs Exemption to the current Federal Regulations regarding *P. ramorum*: DE, FL, KY, MS & WV; all have been denied. An APHIS *P. ramorum* Program Review will be held July 27 and 28, 2004 in Riverdale, Maryland with the participation of Federal and State partners, industry and other stakeholders. The current USDA policy will be reviewed and analyzed as well as regulatory responses to this year's detections.

PPQ, in collaboration with the National Plant Diagnostic Network, CSREES, US Forest Service, State Plant Regulatory Officials, State Department of Agriculture Plant Clinic Diagnosticians, and Master Gardener and IPM Coordinators, will conduct two teleconferences to inform State cooperators of national efforts to date to discuss the need for State-based response plans and to provide training for master gardeners in the identification and proper procedures for suspect *P. ramorum* infected plants.